
**IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE CITY OF KENT
KING COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON**

IN RE MATTER OF EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TO THE THREAT TO
PUBLIC HEALTH

) EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE
) ORDER NO. 2020-07
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**THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE COURT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF KENT AND KING COUNTY:**

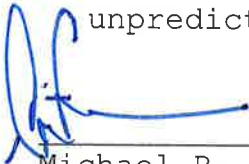
This supplemental order is issued in response to the additional restrictions instituted by Governor Inslee on 11/15/20 AND EXTENDED THROUGH January 4, 2021. The additional restrictions, applicable state wide, were imposed in response to the record breaking increase in daily COVID-19 cases in the State of Washington over the last two weeks. This rampant increase in cases necessitates the temporary altering of Court operations in the City of Kent. This Court finds that such measures are required to ensure the health and safety of the court staff, the lawyers, and the community this Court serves. The following measures will be in effect until at least 01/31/21.


1. Effective November 23, 2020, all calendars will be conducted remotely unless otherwise indicated. Defendants incapable of appearing remotely will appear at the courthouse in person and participate in hearings by zoom via court provided access. Clerks and defense counsel appearing in person to facilitate this process will be provided additional protective gear.
2. All non-DUI Court participant call-in UA requirements will be suspended unless otherwise ordered by the Court on an individual case basis. Probation appointments will continue to be held remotely.
3. When court space allows, no more than five defendants will physically appear in any courtroom.

4. This Court will not conduct jury trials in the month of January 2021. Since resuming jury trials in August, we have essentially been limited to one trial per term. This has been due to the adherence of necessary health and safety guidelines, in conjunction with the limited space available at the courthouse. Given the alarming increase in COVID-19 cases, and the state wide measures in place intended to reduce the opportunities for prolonged, close contact indoors with people from differing households, this Court finds the risk involved in holding jury trials in January, 2021 outweighs any inconvenience caused by further delay. All cases set for trial in the January, 2021 term will be addressed individually as currently set.
5. Public defense screening is again suspended. Automatic appointment procedures will be back in effect thru the end of January, 2021.
6. Court dates related solely to IID installation verification will not be scheduled. Conditions should indicate that if proof is not timely filed with the Court, the condition reverts to no driving for any reason until further order of the Court.
7. All infraction calendars will be held remotely, by zoom or telephonically, until further order of this Court.
8. The Kent Municipal Court will remain open to the public. This order is subject to change as circumstances evolve. All measures will be reviewed at the end of January, 2021.

These measures are intended to reduce the amount of traffic in the courthouse through the end of the year, which this Court finds necessary to protect the health and safety of all persons that come into contact with the Kent Municipal Court. On a personal note, we continue to thank our amazing court staff, the prosecutors, public defenders, security personnel, and jail staff for all the hard work and perseverance it has taken to ensure the administration of justice continues at the Kent Municipal Court during these very difficult and unpredictable times.

SO ORDERED this 18th day of December, 2020.


Michael R. Frans
Presiding Judge


Anthony Gipe
Judge